



**Australian Government**

# **AHCPER317 Build with earth, straw and reclaimed materials**

**Release: 1**

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## Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comment
1	AHCv1.0	Initial release

## Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to build with earth, straw and reclaimed materials, using techniques that use local earth, straw and rock, and that turn problems into solutions by converting waste, surplus or low embodied energy materials into solid and serviceable structures.

All work is carried out to comply with workplace procedures. Individuals observe manufacturer's specifications and follow operating instructions when using tools and equipment.

This unit applies to individuals who take responsibility for their own work and for the quality of the work of others. They use discretion and judgement in the selection, allocation and use of available resources.

No occupational licensing, legislative or certification requirements are known to apply to this unit at the time of publication.

## Pre-requisite Unit

Nil.

## Unit Sector

Permaculture (PER)

## Elements and Performance Criteria

Element	Performance criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
1. Research building methods	1.1 Research appropriate building methods to decide which methods will be appropriate for the project 1.2 Review the availability of materials locally and their suitability for the chosen method

Element	Performance criteria
	1.3 Consult experts and tradespeople to confirm suitability of chosen building method and materials
2. Prepare for the building project	2.1 Collect materials on site 2.2 Obtain labour support and engage experts where necessary 2.3 Clear the site and mark out the area
3. Build with earth, straw and reclaimed materials	3.1 Using the chosen method, commence building the structure 3.2 Use reclaimed materials where possible and ensure that they are structurally suitable 3.3 Use natural finishes and treatments where possible and appropriate
4. Limit and re-use surplus and waste materials	4.1 Ensure that the surplus or waste materials are stockpiled or stored for future re-use where possible 4.2 Demonstrate appropriate uses for all available materials and share and swap with other projects where possible 4.3 Limit the amount of waste material removed from the site and ensure that it goes to a new use rather than to landfill wherever possible
5. Check quality of work and clean-up site	5.1 Inspect quality of finished works and ensure the standard of the finished built structure is appropriate to the permaculture design drawings and specifications 5.2 Clean up debris from structure and site 5.3 Clean and store tools and equipment

## Foundation Skills

Foundation Skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

## Range of Conditions

## Unit Mapping Information

New unit.

## Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>